SDMS DOC ID 88167615

SFUND RECORDS CTR
2807-01243

FAIRCHILD
A Schlumberger Company

Fairchild Camera and Instrument Corporation
Linear Division

February 16, 1982

Mr. Norman H. Lougee, Water Division Engineer
Public Works
City of Mountain View
540 Castro Street
P.O. Box 10
Mountain View, CA. 94042

Dear Mr. Lougee:

This letter is in response to your letter of January 14, 1982, to Mr. Greg Geary and request for corrective action to eliminate excessive fluoride discharges into the Mountain View sewer system. Affected is the discharge from our wastewater treatment plant located between Fairchild Buildings 2 & 3, 545 Whisman Road.

Linear Division Personnel have conducted an intensive review of fluoride usage and wastewater connections within the plant. Also, laboratory tests of the wastewater have been conducted (See Attachment A). However, as you can see from the data, the level of fluorides has dropped considerably from the December 16th City test, especially during the last week as a result of corrective actions already taken.

Due to the many internal waste connections, complexity of waste handling in general and time required for analysis, it has been difficult to determine where the excessive fluorides are coming from. Fairchild Linear Division is committed to resolving any discharge problems promtply and will take whatever steps are necessary to assure that fluoride and all other wastes are properly handled and disposed of.

Immediate Corrective Actions which have been taken are as follows:

1. Disconnected a glass cleaning station using hydrofluoric acid (HF) from the acid waste drain system to a special HF collection system.

2. Several automatic quartz tube cleaners which use HF have been taken off line to determine any changes required to eliminate discharge of fluorides to the city system. Equipment will not be drained to sewer until changes are made.

313 Fairchild Drive Drawer No. 7282 Mountain View, California 94042 (415) 962-5011 TWX 910-369-6435

3. Reinstructed technicians and operators on proper disposal methods for HF as well as other acids and chemicals. Re-emphasized the importance and significance of keeping all chemical wastes under control from an environmental, legal and personal safety standpoint. The Division is committed to an ongoing program of employee training on proper chemical usage and disposal including chemical spill control and clean-up.

Follow-up and long term corrective actions are as follows:

1. Immediately instituted an engineering study to determine whether certain rinsing operations can be modified to reduce or eliminate carry-over fluorides.

2. Incorporated the Linear Environmental Engineering office into the review and approval cycle for changes in processes and equipment involving the use of chemicals to assure their proper use and disposal, including fluorides.

3. Daily testing of the wastewater discharge by Linear will continue with at least weekly cross-checks by an outside State-certified laboratory. This data will be available for your review as required.

Based on our present knowledge of the situation, it is expected that complete compliance will be achieved by May 15, 1982. We will keep you informed of any changes with this schedule.

If there are any questions or comments, please contact me as soon as possible.

Yours truly,

George J. Lechner

George J. Lechner
Safety/Environmental Engineer

GJL/rp

cc: R. Epstein
E. Eshaghoff
R. Johanson
C. Smith
R. Smith

Attachment

ATTACHMENT A

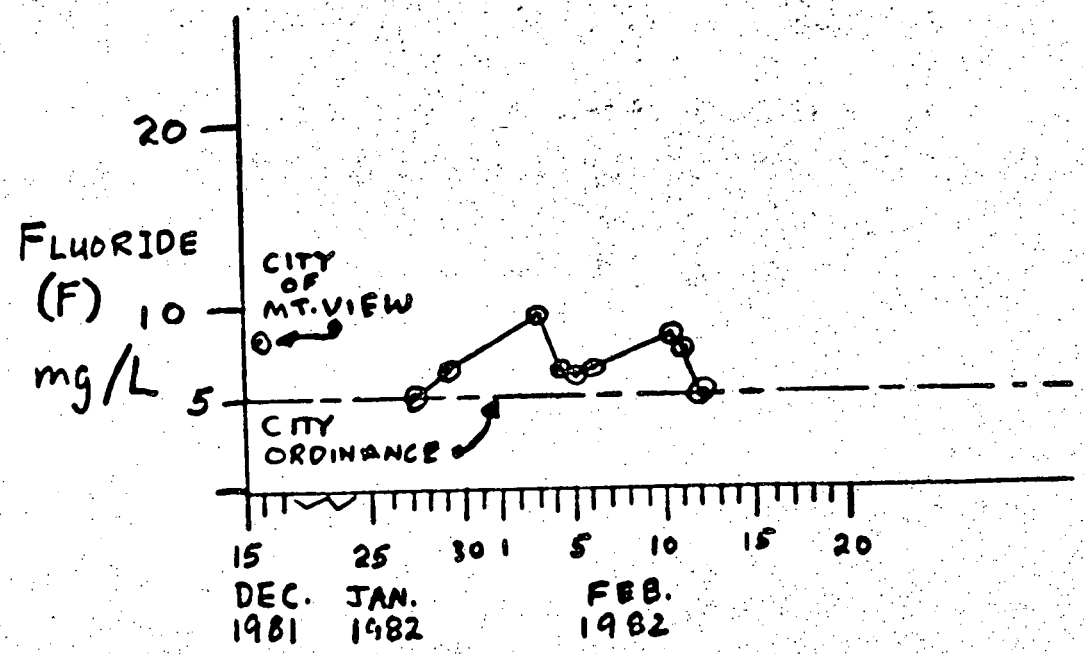
FLUORIDE ANALYSIS OF INDUSTRIAL WASTEWATER

Date of Sample	Type of Sample	Certified Laboratory * Results, mg/L
12-16-81	Composite	8.2 (City Sample)
1-26-82	Grab	6.4**
1-27-82	Grab	2.3
1-27-82	Composite	5.0
1-29-82	Composite	6.6
2-2-82	Composite	9.4
2-4-82	Composite	6.6
2-5-82	Composite	6.2
2-6-82	Composite	6.7
2-9-82	Grab	3.2
2-10-82	Composite	8.3
2-11-82	Composite	7.6
2-12-82	Composite	5.0
	Range (Composite Sample Only)	5.0 - 9.4
	Average (Composite Sample Only)	6.8

*All outside laboratory tests on samples collected by Fairchild were performed by Testing & Controls, Mountain View. (See Attached Report).

** A duplicate sample was analyzed by Sequoia Analytical Laboratory with a result of 5.7 mg/L (See Attached Report).

GJL/sma



FLUORIDE ANALYSIS

COMPOSITE SAMPLES

Testing and Controls

P.O. Box 98 • 415 Fairchild Drive • Mountain View, CA 94042 • (415) 967-6982

File No. T9703-P01
Lab. No. 11935
P. O. No. LG71210
February 12, 1982

Fairchild Linear Division
313 Fairchild Dr.
P. O. Drawer 7282
Mountain View, CA 94042

Attention: Mr. George J. Lechner

Subject: Fluoride Content of Waste Water

Identification:	ppm F, Found
L20001 2:30 P.M. 1-26-82 (Grab Sample)	6.4
L20003 10:00 A.M. 1-27-82 (Grab Sample)	2.3
L20004 1530 1-26-82 to 1000 1-27-82 (Composite)	5.0
L20007 10:00 A.M. 1-28-82 to 10:00 A.M. 1-29-82 (Composite)	6.6
L20008 10:00 A.M. 2-1-82 to 10:00 A.M. 2-2-82 (Composite	9.4
L20009 2-4-82	6.6
L20010 1300, 2-4-82 to 1300, 2-5-82 (Composite)	6.2
L20011 1300, 2-5-82 to 1300, 2-6-82 (Composite)	6.7
L20012 12:15 A.M. 2-9-82 (Grab Sample)	3.2
L20013 (Composite)	8.3
L20014 1200, 2-10-82 to 1000, 2-11-82 (Composite)	7.6
L20015 1000, 2-11-82 to 0830, 2-12-82 (Composite)	5.0

TESTING AND CONTROLS

Richard Maynez

RM:eb

Copies: (3)

SEQUOIA Analytical Laboratory
2549 Middlefield Road
Redwood City, CA 94063 • (415) 364-9222

Fairchild Corporation
Linear
P.O. Drawer 7282
Mountain View, CA 94042
Attn: George Lechner
MS 4-395

Date Sampled: 01/26/82
Date Received: 01/27/82
Date Reported: 02/02/82
P.O. Number: LG71207

Sample Number	Sample Description
2010789	Wastewater Sample #200002

ANALYSIS

Fluoride, mg/L	5.7

SEQUOIA ANALYTICAL LABORATORY

Arthur G. Burton
Laboratory Director

FAIRCHILD, MTN VIEW G

Date: 2-17-92
Time: 1:00 PM
To: BLASCO
From: Greg Gearty

RECORD OF COMMUNICATION

☐ Discussion ☐ Field Trip
☐ Meeting ☐ Phone Call
☐ Other

Subject: FAIRCHILD, MTN VIEW

SUMMARY: Greg reported that following the discovery of a contaminated well near the Intel property in Mountain View, Fairchild, Mtn View conducted core sampling on their property. Samples were collected during 2-12 → 2-15 weekend. Water samples were taken from the 1st water bearing strata, approx 22' below surface. Samples were taken next to, and radiating away from, a sump that in the past had received waste solvents, and now receives rinse water prior to discharge to sanitary sewer. Data was received by Fairchild on 2-16-92
TCE contam. was discovered in groundwater at levels up to 1000 ppm next to sump. Level drops off to approx 80 ppb. 100 yds from sump. Sump was tested, and found not to contain solvents. Sump is thought not to be leaking now. Since last use of TCE at Fairchild was 5 yrs ago, it is thought that the contam is the result of past, not present, practices. Meeting scheduled at RWQCB for Tues, 2-23, at 10:00 A.M. Fairchild will present data.

Firm: FAIRCHILD
Address: MOUNTAIN VIEW
Tel. No. 415-962-2714
408-221-7170

☐ Conclusions ☐ Actions taken ☐ Actions to be taken

Informational copies:
J. Anderson
E. Fotell
B. Speaks

8/81 8019-005